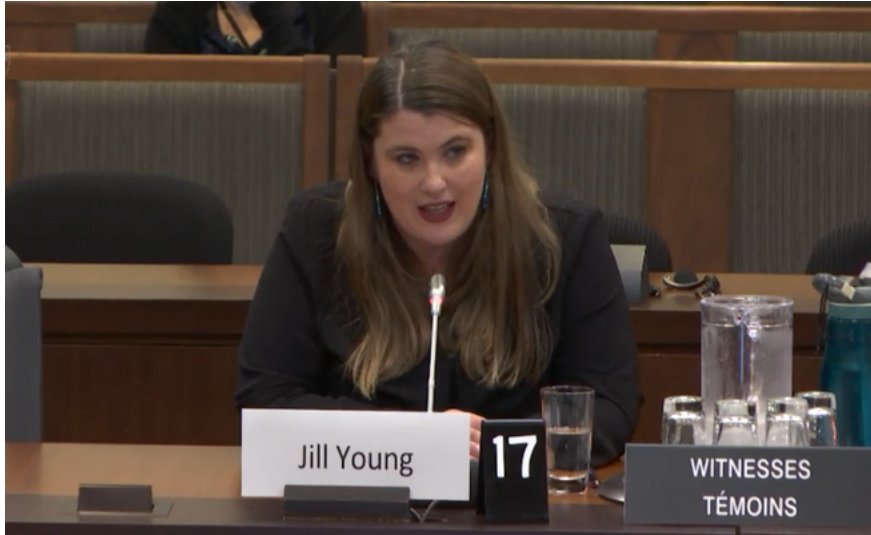




YW COMMUNITY CONNECT



CEO Jill Young speaking in the House of Commons, Standing Committee on the Status of Women (FEWO), Nov. 6 2024

ADVOCACY IS AT THE HEART OF OUR WORK

Created in 2004, the House of Commons Standing Committee on the Status of Women focuses their work in four primary areas;

- government funding
- gender inequality
- poverty amongst women
- violence against women

The YWCA Lethbridge was invited to speak to this Standing Committee on their study of Gender-Based Violence and Femicide, CEO Jill Young took this very important opportunity to engage in advocacy at the highest level,

contributing directly to shaping policies and funding that address gender-based violence, femicide, and the ongoing challenges that women, girls, and gender-diverse people in our community face.

Our work in Lethbridge is critical, and the dedication in our staff, Board, members, and community supporters makes a difference every day. Attending the committee allowed us to bring our frontline experiences into discussions with policymakers, ensuring that our message resonates beyond our community and contributes to broader change across Canada. By sharing our perspective and the issues our clients encounter, we help build a safer and more equitable future for all.

AN OUTPOURING OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND CONNECTION

November 15 to December 4, the centre core of Park Place Mall was bustling with activity around the three big red vending machines, the Giving Machines. Volunteers from the YWCA had the opportunity to spend a day at the shopping center engaging with the community, sharing the message of what we do and why we do it.

This was the first year that Lethbridge was able to host the Giving Machine campaign, and we look forward to many more years of collaboration on this project.



Let's Connect!

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Just a few of the items that have been donated by our community! Too many to name!

15TH ANNUAL TUBS WITH TOYS!

The Ensuite Kitchen & Bath Showroom has, for fifteen years, raised funds and collected new toys for the children of the YWCA programs at Christmas time, and this year, they absolutely outdid themselves!



Southland Trailers joined us with their truck & trailer to collect and transport a mountain of toys!



Joey Baranyay – Profit Center Manager, EMCO Lethbridge



The teams from Southland Trailers, The Ensuite, and the YWCA after loading the toys into our trailer sleigh! (left)

Bins, carts, and boxes going into the YWCA! (right)



WHAT'S YOUR Y?

Membership in the YWCA

Becoming a voting member of the YWCA is one of the meaningful ways that you can support the organization and all of the work we do every day. Use the QR code to purchase your 2024-25 membership for only \$20. Men who are allies can join too! Non-voting memberships are also available at only \$10 annually, and offer many of the same benefits.



Volunteering Opportunities

The YWCA is pleased to once again be working with Volunteer Lethbridge to advertise and bolster our volunteering program. New and ongoing opportunities will be posted on our website, and theirs. If you would like to join us as a volunteer, please visit opportunities.volunteerlethbridge.com to sign up, and to find out the details of upcoming events.

Financial Support

Empower women to live their best lives. Your gift helps us provide programs and services that enhance the lives of women and promote wellness – in mind, body and spirit.

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THE SECOND ANNUAL YWCA GALA - DEC. 3/24



A glittering, glamorous group of guests gathered in the Salons at the Agrifood Hub, all with a singular focus; enjoying cocktails whilst supporting our YWCA programs and services.

Thanks to the amazing team at Grassroots Realty, we finished the evening with a record-breaking amount raised!

We are still overflowing with gratitude for the astounding support that our community shows, knowing that every dollar raised directly benefits women and their families impacted by domestic violence.



The 2024 YWCA Benefit Gala



A special Thank You to all of our donors, sponsors, and guests!

THE ROSE CAMPAIGN - REMEMBERING DEC. 6 1989



Together, we remember:

*Geneviève Bergeron - Hélène Colgan - Nathalie Croteau - Barbara Daigneault
Anne-Marie Edward - Maud Haviernick - Maryse Laganière - Maryse Leclair
Sonia Pelletier - Michèle Richard - Annie St-Anneault - Annie Turcotte
Barbara Klucznik-Widajewicz - Anne-Marie Lemay*



YWCA Canada's Rose Campaign is a national advocacy initiative dedicated to ending violence against women, girls, and gender diverse individuals. Named after the original rose button created to honor the 14 young women murdered on December 6, 1989, at École Polytechnique in Montreal, the campaign seeks to turn a symbol of remembrance into a powerful call for action. This tragic mass shooting, in which a man specifically targeted female engineering students, deeply shocked and outraged Canadians nationwide.

The loss of these young women became a powerful catalyst for change, sparking a widespread movement to address and combat gender-based violence. December 6 is now recognized as Canada's National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, a day dedicated to honoring the victims of gender-based violence, supporting survivors and advocating for a safer future for all women, girls and gender-diverse individuals.

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WOMEN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS DINNER - MARCH 8, 2025

In honor of International Women's Day on March 8th, 2025, YWCA Lethbridge & District proudly presents the Women of Distinction Awards Dinner, an event dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the exceptional achievements of remarkable women in our community.

The Women of Distinction Awards Dinner will take place on Saturday March 8th at the Coast Hotel, starting at 6:00pm. This special event aims to shine a spotlight on the outstanding contributions made by these inspiring women who have demonstrated exemplary leadership, dedication, and impact in various fields.

Nominations for the Women of Distinction will open on January 2, 2025 and submissions will be accepted until January 29, 2025.

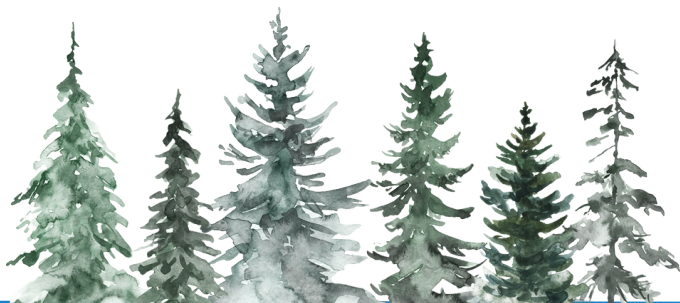
Take this amazing opportunity to celebrate that woman in your life who has made a difference in the fabric of Lethbridge by getting your nomination package in early.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO - JILL YOUNG

As 2024 draws to a close, we reflect on a year of resilience, growth, and impact. Celebrating 75 years of service, YWCA Lethbridge & District has reached new heights in supporting our community. This year, we've navigated change while staying true to our mission—empowering individuals, fostering safety, and building a brighter future for all. We are incredibly grateful for the amazing support at our YWCA Gala and look forward to celebrating the upcoming Women of Distinction Awards. Looking ahead, 2025 promises exciting opportunities, including the launch of our new strategic plan and the opening of a brand-new program to support those in need. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Your support fuels our vision and makes our work possible.

Warm wishes for a safe and joyful holiday season!

Jill Young



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